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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: HARIRI

Confirmation No.: 9742

Application No.: 10/076,180

Group Art Unit: 1632

Filed: February 13, 2002

Examiner: Qian J. Li

For: POST-PARTUM MAMMALIAN
PLACENTA, ITS USE AND
PLACENTAL STEM CELLS
THEREFROM

Attorney Docket No.: 9516-050-999

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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
PO BOX 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir/Madam:

In response to the Office Action mailed April 16, 2003 in connection with the above-identified patent application, please consider the following remarks. Applicant submits herewith (a) a Petition for Extension of Time for a period of one (1) month from May 16, 2003 up to and including June 16, 2003, accompanied by the appropriate fee; and (b) an Information Disclosure Statement accompanied by List of References Cited by Applicant with copies of references AA-FR.

REMARKS

Claims 1-59 are pending in the instant application. The Examiner has required restriction of the pending claims under 35 U.S.C. § 121 to one of the following five groups:

- Group I: Claims 1-18 and 54, drawn to an isolated mammalian placenta, classified in class 435, subclass 1.1;
- Group II: Claims 19-35, drawn to a method of culturing a mammalian placenta, classified in class 435, subclass 2;
- Group III: Claims 36-40, 46-49, 51-53 and 55-59, drawn to a human placenta stem cell and a method of using such for treating diseases in humans, classified in class 435, subclass 325;
- Group IV: Claims 41-45, drawn to an apparatus for producing stem cells, classified in class 435, subclass 283.1; and

Group V: Claim 50, drawn to a committed cell, classified in class 435, subclass 325.

The Examiner contends that the inventions of Groups I-V are distinct, each from the other.

Applicant hereby elects to prosecute the invention of Group I, claims 1-18 and 54, drawn to an isolated mammalian placenta, classified in class 435, subclass 1.1.

Applicant respectfully requests that the present remarks be made of record in the file history of the present application. An early allowance of the application is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned with any questions concerning the application.

Date June 5, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosures